

NEPALI FLAG



Nepali flag is the only bi triangular shape flag in the whole world. While all countries in the world flutter a quadrilateral flag, Nepal flag wave pennons in the air. Two pennons made the flag, upper pennon longer with sharper angle than lower one which is wider. The flag is crimson red in color, crimson being the national color of Nepal. Officially Nepali flag got national approval by new constitutional government of the country in 16th December 1962, though it was already in existence in 19th century. According to Nepal's constitution, a 4:3 plus proportion two crimson red pennons with blue border and symbol of crescent moon in upper pennon and sun in lower pennon is the national flag of Nepal.

The national flag of Nepal is symbol of a Hindu kingdom. Unlike in European and Mediterranean country where all flag were influenced by rectangular ship flags, Nepali flag is much nearer in its design to the mythological Hindu flags called the "*Dhoja*" which is a single pennon or also known as "Pavon" shape by westerners. One can still see plenty of such *dhojain* temples in Hindu temples in India and Nepal. So Nepali flag is also interpreted as pride of a only Hindu country of the world though, the country is no more a Hindu state. The symbol of sun and moon in same flag is also linked to Hinduism by some people.

Interpretation of national Flag

Until the peoples' movement. in 2006, Nepal has always been ruled by kings. So the flag which was in use from earlier century have royal influence.

- **The pennons:** The pennons of the flag are much related to Hindu mythology. However in much accepted belief, the two pennons represent the two strong religions; Hinduism and Buddhism and their coexistence in the country. Also the triangles symbolize the Himalayas of the kingdom.
- **The Crimson color:** Nepal flag is deep crimson color, the national color of Nepal. It is said that the color represents bravery of Nepalese. The color is sign of good omen in Hinduism. The crimson red is sign of heat and fire, blood and bravery, love and enthusiasm.
- **The Blue color:** The flag has a blue border. The color of blue holds lot of meaning too. The color is symbol of peace, well significant in the land of Lord Buddha. Blue is also related to sea and sky. It also signifies calmness and wisdom.

- **The crescent Moon:** Above the crescent moon in the top triangle are eight small triangles in what looks like a smaller version of the sun partially eclipsed by the moon. The moon symbolizes calmness, friendliness of Nepalese people.
- **The Sun:** Like the moon, the sun too has eight triangles like projection. Sun symbolize life as it provides heat. It also means fire.
- The celestial bodies, sun and moon are also considered to have royal significance, sun representing the Ranas and moon represents the kings. But more convincingly, the presence of sun and moon means the existence of Nepal in the world as long as sun and moon exist in the space.

The flag has a deep meaning in terms of its color and symbol. The red color being bordered by blue means limiting the fire and power with peace and wisdom. The celestial bodies signify the permanence and eternalness. Further the color of celestial bodies is white which signifies neutrality.

History of Nepal's flag

The national flag may have earned national adoption in late 1960s, but the flag was already in existence before that. Many historic archaeological buildings like Golden Gate (1753) have two gold-plated pennon flags which are evidence of [bi triangular flag](#) in Nepal. Until the national adoption, the sun and moon had human faces. Later the human faces were changed to normal sun and moon. Nepal is considered a Hindu country, though not officially under a republic government now. The king of Nepal is also considered an incarnation of Lord Vishnu. In the epic stories of Hindu holy books, the then kings were from Sun and Moon dynasties; "Suryavanshi" (Sun dynasty) and "Chandravanshi" (Moon dynasty). Every king had such one pennon flag *dhoja* which were used in kings' chariots. With such evidence, Nepal's flag is supposed to be strongly influenced by Nepalese culture and beliefs.

Why is Nepali flag not rectangular?

Well, there is no particular reason for the unique shape of the Nepalese flag. However, there is no hard and fast rule to have a rectangular flag for a country as well. The Nepalese flag is believed to have originated from the ancestral time, some say from 2000 years ago.

A country's national emblem, flag and other significant things are directly influenced by the country's geographical setting, natural and cultural occurrence and national pride. Most of the European western countries were in sea route from earlier centuries and for more practical use they used rectangular bright-colored flags. Many colonized countries then had similar influence in their flags as well.

Many countries have changed color and patterns to meet the modern flag uniformity in the world. However, Nepal has remained the only country to preserve its flag as the only one non-rectangular flag in the world. Some political fuss on changing the national flag was heard after political transition in

the country in 2006, but the issue remains buried after straight dissatisfaction from the general people.